

From: JennFrankD@aol.com@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/8/02 10:38am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Your Honor,

As a computer user and lover of technology since the early eighties, I feel compelled to weigh in regarding the recent 'settlement' between Microsoft and the DOJ.

I've used computers since the first Xerox Star, Apple Lisa, and DOS based PC's (before Windows). I also worked for New England Telephone/NYNEX/Bell Atlantic/Verizon until July of this year in our Technology Center in Framingham, MA. This allowed me to see almost every kind of consumer computer available. I was and I am an avid reader of technology magazines and websites.

I can distinctly remember in the early nineties, reading about Microsoft's tactics in establishing their monopoly. I wondered even then, how they were getting away with 'borrowing' Apple's look and feel and making exclusionary contracts with OEM's. Through the years, as I read about how they sabotaged DR-DOS, lied to customers about the ability of their software, produced false evidence in their trials, etc. I began to actually hate Microsoft and its executive board.

Since I was in charge of the Macintosh LAN at work, I was able to see firsthand how the Macs were never in need of consistent software patches or prone to the multitude of problems my PC counterpart encountered. It once took 3 technicians and four days of telephone support from Microsoft to get one PC to print properly. I just couldn't believe how any company got anything done using PC computers!!

Because of MS' thumbing of their nose at our free market economy and antitrust laws, we have become a country of billions of dollars of lost production due to their software which is so unsecure and virus supporting that even the F.B.I. has to investigate it. This is ludicrous when one realizes that there are other options. Unfortunately, even after Windows XP was shown to be the most unsecure OS ever built, MS' stock went up. Why? Because they are such an entrenched monopoly that no company can afford to even think of using an alternative.

MS has so much money they were able to back two bidders in the auction for AT&T's cable business. No company should have that kind of power.

I beg of you to stop Microsoft. They should have been broken up into three pieces; one that makes the OS, one that makes the applications like Office, and a browser company. The applications company would have definitely kept making Office for the Macintosh and would've loved to make a version for LINUX. (today, we have the AG's trying to force Microsoft to do what any

other competitive company would normally do).

The browser company would have to compete with Netscape for business.

The OS company would be forced to build better quality in their OS or else the app developers would build their apps for the most stable platform, which is UNIX based platforms like Mac and LINUX.

Read the message forums at ZDnet.com. Even Wintel users are wary of Microsoft's power and this whole PASSPORT, HAILSTORM, .NET initiative that will let Microsoft put their tentacles into every single aspect of our daily lives.

You have the power to literally change and save the world of computing. I beg of you, please dish out the punishment a convicted, predatory, monopolist deserves. Break them up and let other, truly innovative companies rise to the top. You will be doing a great service to people like me who for ten years has seen the world of computing, which I love, languish and be held captive to the beast from Redmond.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter.

Sincerely,

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